

OK TO
ESTON
7/2/05
Application Serial No. 09/975,600

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 10, line 13, as follows:

In the embodiment illustrated in FIGs 1 - 3, the openings are in a regular, repeating array (although virtually any pattern of openings which satisfies one or more of the foregoing performance objectives may be employed). For the illustrated regular rectangular array of openings, each opening suitably exhibits a side dimension in the range of six inches ~~two to~~ four feet, with a spacing in the range of six inches to four feet. In a particularly preferred embodiment, the square openings have side dimensions in the range of two feet with a spacing of two feet between openings.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 24, line 16, as follows:

Referring now to FIG. 14, a cross-section taken along line ~~XIV-XIV~~ 14-14 of FIG. 21 illustrates a portion of perforated floor 1402 supported by columns 1002 which extend between the bottom surface of the perforated floor and floor 904 of a facilities room 1404. As discussed above, by ensuring that the top surface of form 1204 is parallel to or slightly lower than the top surface of columns 1002, the perforated floor may be supported directly by columns 1002. As also discussed above, it may be desirable to incorporate beams which extend horizontally between respective columns so that the beams are integral with the perforated floor.

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Amendments to Specification

Paragraph starting at page 21, line 13:

With continued reference to FIG. 12, in order to provide the openings in the perforated floor described above, it is convenient to construct structural forms (or simply "structures") 1202 on the top surface of form 1204 prior to pouring the perforated floor. As also briefly mentioned above, structures 1202 may be empty if it is desired that the resulting perforations in the perforated floor take the form of openings. Alternatively, structures 1202 may be partially or completely filled with one or more substances (e.g., 1203) designed to further dampen vibrations across the perforated floor.